

On page 14, last line, please delete the word "which".

On page 15, line 14, please replace the word "mall" with the word --may--.

On page 17, line 16, please replace "No. \_\_\_\_\_" with --No. 09/394,018--.

**In the Claims:**

Please add the following new claims:

- B2*  
*sub C3*
- 32. A communication device for communication with a remote device over a communication channel, said communication device comprising:
- a receiver capable of receiving an attention signal;
  - a decoder capable of decoding said attention signal;
  - a transmitter capable of transmitting a hold request to said remote device in response to said attention signal;
- wherein said communication over said communication channel ceases for a period of time after transmitting said hold request.--
- 33. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said hold request includes said period of time.--
- 34. The communication device of claim 32, wherein a handset is in communication with said communication device, and wherein said attention signal is generated as a result of said handset going off-hook.--
- 35. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said attention signal is a call waiting tone.--
- 36. The communication device of claim 35, wherein said device generates a ring signal in response to receiving said call waiting tone.--
- 37. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said attention signal is generated periodically by a requesting device in communication with said communication device.--

--38. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said attention signal is generated based on a user request.--

--39. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said attention signal is an emergency call.--

--40. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said communication device keeps an upper layer protocol alive during said period of time.--

B2 --41. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said hold request is transmitted using a secondary channel.--

--42. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said device receives an acknowledgement in response to said hold request.--

--43. The communication device of claim 32, wherein said attention signal includes an identification, and wherein said identification is checked against a plurality of stored identifications to determine whether said hold request should be transmitted.--

sub C4 --44. A communication method for use between a first device and a second device in communication over a communication channel, said communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving an attention signal by said first device;  
decoding said attention signal;  
transmitting a hold request to said second device in response to said attention signal; and  
ceasing said communication over said communication channel by said first device for a period of time.--

--45. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said hold request includes said period of time.--

--46. The communication method of claim 44, wherein a handset is in communication with said device, and wherein said attention signal is generated as a result of said handset going off-hook.--

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--47. The communication method of claim 46 further comprising the step of providing a new communication channel.--

--48. The communication method of claim 47, wherein said providing step includes providing a dial tone.--

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--49. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal is a call waiting tone.--

--50. The communication method of claim 49, wherein said device generates a ring signal in response to said call waiting tone.--

--51. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal is generated periodically by a requesting device in communication with said first device.--

--52. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal is generated based on a user request.--

--53. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal is an emergency call.--

--54. The communication method of claim 44 further comprising the step of keeping an upper layer protocol alive during said period of time.--

--55. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said transmitting step uses a secondary channel for transmitting said hold request.--

--56. The communication method of claim 44 further comprising the step of receiving an acknowledgement in response to said hold request.--

--57. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal includes a  
an identification, and said communication method further comprising the step of checking said  
identification a plurality of stored identifications prior to said step of transmitting.--

--58. The communication method of claim 44 further comprising the step of  
transmitting information relating to said attention signal after said receiving step.--

--59. The communication method of claim 58, wherein said attention signal includes a  
an identification, and said information incorporates said identification.--

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--60. The communication method of claim 44, wherein said attention signal is  
generated as a result of placing a call from a web page.--

--61. The communication method of claim 60 further comprising the step of providing a  
new communication channel.--

--62. The communication method of claim 61, wherein said providing step includes  
providing a dial tone.--

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--63. A routing method for use in a communication system including first, second and  
third communication devices, wherein said first device and said second device are in  
communication over a communication line, said routing method comprising the steps of:  
requesting said communication to be placed on hold;  
receiving an acknowledgement from said first device that said communication has  
been placed on hold for a period of time; and  
switching said communication line from said first device to said third device, such  
that after expiration of said period of time, said second device communicates with said third  
device over said communication line.--

--64. The routing method of claim 63, wherein said step of requesting includes  
transmitting an attention signal to said first device.--

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--65. The routing method of claim 63, wherein said step of requesting includes transmitting an attention signal to said second device.--

--66. A communication method for use between a first device and a second device in communication over a communication channel, said communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving a hold request by said second device;

acknowledging said hold request by said second device;

specifying a hold period by said second device; and

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ceasing said communication over said communication channel by said second device for said hold period.--

--67. The communication method of claim 66 further comprising the step of keeping an upper layer protocol alive during said hold period.--

--68. The communication method of claim 66, wherein said acknowledging step uses a secondary channel for acknowledging said hold request.--